Poor quality of TV Transmission in Rajayalyam and Palani Tamil Nadu

709. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Rajayalayam Kalav-kumlai and Palani in Tamil Nadu are not getting clear transmission because of the nearby hills;

(b) whether Government have received any complaint from Rajapulayam municipality, Tamil Nadu in this regard; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up TV relay station of the above mentioned cities similar to the one installed in Courtalam Hill in Tamil Nadu near Thinkaji so that the TV programmes could be watched by people of these areas well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. A complaint about the poor TV reception at Rajapalayam has been received from the Chairman, Municipal Council, Rajapalayam.

(c) whereas there is no approved scheme at present to set up TV transmitters at Rajapayalam, Kalaukumalai and Palani in Tamil Nadu, it is the constant endeavour of the Government to extend TV service to uncovered parts of the country, as expenditiously as possible, depending upon the availability of resources for the purpose.

Equal pay for equal work

710. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any policy regarding equal pay for equal work;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to formulate the same; and

(c) if so, by when and if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 is already in force to provide for payment of equal remuneration to men and women workers for performing the same work or work of a similar nature. The principle of equality is also kept in view while fixing the minimum wage levels under the Minimum Wages Act.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Excise concession to small scale units

711. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what excise concession to small scale, units are available under the Small Scale Exemption Scheme as at present indicating also the licensing limit to obtain excise licence as on date; and

(b) whether the Central investment Subsidy Scheme has been reviewed for small scale units located in rural and backward areas of the country; if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Under the Small Scale Exemption Scheme currently in operation, registered small scale units are fully exempt from excise duty upto clearances of Rs. 20 lakhs (Rs. 30 lakhs in a year for goods covered in more than one chapter of the Central Excise Tariff). On clearances ranging between Rs. 20 lakhs and 75 lacks, a concessional rate of duty i.e., the normal duty minus 10 per cent *ad valorem*, subject to minimum duty of 5 per cent ad valorem is levied. The aforesaid exemption/concession is available to units whose aggregate

value of clearances of all exciseable goods did not exceed Rs. 2 crores in the preceding financial year and do not exceed Rs. 2 crores in the current financial year in which the concessions are availed.

The limit of value of clearances of goods in a financial year for the purpose of obtaining a central excise licence has been prescribed at Rs. 15 lakhs.

(b) In his budget speech for 1990-91, the then Union Finance Minister proposed to re-introduce a Central Investment Subsidy for small scale units in rural areas and backward regions.

A proposal for Central Investment Subsidy for small scale units in rural areas and backward regions is under examination in consultation with the concerned Ministries/ Departments.

Bills of States pending assent by the President

712. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of state bills, pending the assent of the President of India as on date; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) As on 28.2.1991, there were 70 State Bills requiring Presidential assent. Sate-wise information is given in the enclosed Statement.

Of these, 44 Bills were pending for want of necessary clarifications from the concerned State Governments. The remaining were under various stages of consideration in consultation with the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments of Government of India.

Statement

Pending Bills State-wise

States	No. of Bills
Andhra Pradesh	8
Assam	7
Bihar	3
Goa	2
Haryana	5
Himachal Pradesh	1
Karnataka	4
Madhya Pradesh	1
Manipur	6
Meghalaya	2
Orisa	3
Rajasthan	6
Sikkim	2
Tamil Nadu	6
Tripura	4
Utar Pradesh	2
West Bengal	8
Total:	70

Sick industrial units in Orissa

713. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of medium and small scale industria units in Orissa which fell sick as on the 31st March, 1990;

(b) the reasons of the growing sickness of industrial units in that state;

(c) whether steps have been taken by Government to revive some of those sick units; and

(d) if so, the details of the small and medium sick units revived in Orissa as on 31st January; 1991?